## United States Department of the Interior

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In Reply To:

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Expires: 9/30/05

To: State Management Team

From: State Director

Subject: Montana/Dakotas Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) Exposure Control Plan (ECP)

Program Area: Safety and Occupational Health

**Purpose:** To reissue the <u>Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) Exposure Control Plan (ECP)</u> in order to provide a more safe and healthful work environment for all employees. This policy and plan are established to protect employees from occupational exposure to any BBP and/or other potentially infectious materials that they could reasonably be expected to encounter during the workday that may result in a serious infection such as Hepatitis B or Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). The Montana/Dakotas Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has adopted a system of *universal precautions* to protect employees. This system assumes that all human blood and certain human body fluids are infectious.

**Policy/Action:** In order to provide the highest level of protection for employees, the following initiatives will be implemented:

- 1. Supervisors will advise employees of the hazards of occupational exposure to BBPs that may be associated with their job assignment. A Risk Assessment (RA) must be completed whenever there is possibility of exposure to blood or other potentially infectious material (OPIM). The supervisor and each employee will also complete an Exposure Determination Form (see Attachment 1, Appendix A).
- 2. The safety manager will review the form and contact the employee who, if through the nature of their job assignments, qualifies for inclusion in the BBP Program.
- 3. Employees with occupational exposure to BBPs are responsible for reviewing this policy and complying with all requirements, including the use of personal protective equipment when indicated. Employees with questions and concerns are encouraged to seek additional information from their supervisor, Collateral Duty Safety Officer, or the State Safety Specialists.

**Timeframe:** Immediately.

**Background:** The Montana State Office has implemented a BBP program for many years. The policy provides guidance in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard 1910 CFR 1910.1030 – *Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens*.

To assist supervisors and managers in providing information to employees regarding occupational exposure to BBPs, a power point presentation is available on the Montana/Dakotas BLM Intranet Safety Web Page at <a href="http://web.mt.blm.gov/safety/training.html">http://web.mt.blm.gov/safety/training.html</a>. General awareness training on BBP and universal precautions to all employees is provided as handout material attached to the new employee Exposure Determination Questionnaire.

**Manual/Handbook Sections Affected:** Supplemental to the BLM Manual Handbook 1112-1 - Safety and Health Management and 1112-2 - Safety and Health for Field Operations.

Contact: Karilynn Volk and Lisa Engelmann, State Safety Specialists at 406-896-5190/5193.

Signed by: Martin C. Ott

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## 1 Attachment

1–Montana/Dakotas Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan (19 pp)

Distribution w/attm.

Assistant Field Manager, Glasgow Field Station Assistant Field Manager, Havre Field Station